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★ IIA News Letter, February 2021 ★

Ichikawa International Exchange Association (IIA)

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Ichikawa was hit by the earthquake with a seismic intensity of 5 on 13th. which caused power outage, while the 10th anniversary of the Great East Japan Earthquake is approaching. It also caused flood on roads caused by so called “bomb low pressure” on 15th. We cannot predict when a natural disaster will strike. This issue has the inquiry of recruiting volunteers at an evacuation shelter. We look forward to your participation.

If your call cannot reach the IIA, please leave a message on the answering machine or email your message to [info@iia21.jp](mailto:info@iia21.jp).

#### 【World Friends Project】 (IIA )

The project started in 2019, aiming at developing an international awareness for youth. Selected schools overseas and elementary schools exchanged several video letters and cards so far. The schools are Myouden Elementary School and 186<sup>th</sup> Street Elementary School in Gardena, the USA, in 2019. Fukijima Elementary School and St. Nicolas School in Issy, France, in 2020. The students are curious about the cultural differences while respecting each culture. The project has surely helped students get interested in English, broaden their horizons, and acquire global thinking. (iTC: Hiromi Nagasawa)

<http://www.iia21.jp/fukijima1.jpg> ←Fukijima School (watching video letter)

<http://www.iia21.jp/myoden11.jpg> ← Myouden School (Letters from 186<sup>th</sup> Street School)

#### 【Recruiting for “Supporters for non-Japanese residents at Evacuation Shelters”】 (IIA)

When disaster strikes, we are concerned that the non-Japanese residents who evacuate at the shelters would experience anxieties and face difficulties in understanding instructions. For this reason, IIA and Ichikawa City have concluded an agreement long before to support non-Japanese residents in the event of a disaster. Our support is very much needed at the shelter. It is not mandatory to go to the shelter to give support when it occurs.

We are counting on your kind spirit to help us in this endeavor.

#### 1. What is the role of a Supporter?

When a disaster occurs or is predicted, we will be requested by Ichikawa City Hall to assist

non-Japanese residents who need interpretation support at evacuation shelters. However, the supporter should first make sure that his/her own family is safe from disaster before responding to the request. The supporter should not respond if the situation does not allow it.

2. The Supporters we are looking for:

- ✓ Those who are willing to support non-Japanese residents at evacuation shelters
- ✓ Those who can be contacted by LINE or E-mail
- ✓ Those who can participate in disaster prevention drills to be held in evacuation shelters

3. How to apply :

Please email the necessary details listed below to the secretariat of IIA (info@iia21.jp) on or before February 28th.

Application Details:

(1) Name (2) Foreign language Skills/ Easy Japanese ability (3) Evacuation shelter/s where you can be dispatched ( Elementary school name - with a distance of about 10 minutes from your home. Multiple schools are also welcome)

4. Schedule of Activities

In mid-March, we are planning to hold a briefing session and conduct a drill to check the effectiveness of the Contact System. (This schedule is subject to change in relation to COVID-19 situation). We will send the information to the applicants by email.

We sincerely look forward to your application.

**【Closing Japanese language classes】** (Japanese Language Committee )

All classes are being closed now due to COVID-19. Please wait until it calms down.

<http://www.iia21.jp/jpnschool.html> ←Japanese Language Class List

**【Events information】**

<http://www.iia21.jp/e/index.html> ←Click here